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The Land of Earthquakes.

The Spaniards in South America were not without early intimation of the insecurity of the soil. Lima was founded in 1535, under the high sounding title of Ciudad delos Reyes, or City of the Kings, since altered to its present name. In 1582 Lima had its first recorded attack of earthquake. The centre of the shock, however, was lower down along the coast in the neighborhood of Arequipa, founded by Pizarro some twelve months after the establishment of Lima. Arequipa was laid in ruins then as now; but Lima escaped with a warning. Lima's turn, however, was not long in coming. Four years afterward it was laid prostrate; and so great was the catastrophe, even in that land of catastrophes, that the anniversary of that destruction is solemnly commemorated to the present time, on the day of the Visitation of Elizabeth. Lima had its third attack in 1809. In November, 1830, there was another earthquake; but so many of the citizens contrived to escape that they, then and there, instituted the Festival of Nuestra Senora del Milagro, which is celebrated annually to this day.

Thenceforth, earthquake and city may be truly said to have entered into contest for possession of the soil. Earthquake returned to the charge in 1865 with such violence that, for the first time, the citizens camped for several days in the country districts around. When they returned they found no stone standing on another; nevertheless the city rose again. After this there was no earthquake for some twenty years. Again, ten years later, in 1867, at four o'clock in the morning, houses and public edifices came tumbling down without the least previous intimation; the inhabitants, as usual, rushing into the squares and open spaces. The miserable consolation, however, of looking out in safety was this time denied them. At six in the morning the earthquake repeated its attack with renewed vigor, and the sea rising and rising in a wall of inky waters—as it did in the great earthquake of this year—dashed back with overwhelming force over the land. Callao, which had arisen as the port of Lima, a few miles from it, was entirely destroyed, and most of the inhabitants were carried away by the receding waters. The local records, preserved to us by Don Antonio de Ulloa, captain of his most Christian majesty's navy, mention this as the most disastrous visitation to this date. December, 1690, September, 1697, July, 1699, February, 1716, January, 1725, December, 1732, were all earthquake months in Lima. In 1734 and 1745 there were more earthquakes. On the 28th of October, 1746, at half past ten at night, the first shock was felt of another earthquake, and within the space of three minutes all the buildings in the city, great and small, public and private, were heaps of ruins, burying with them those inhabitants who had not been quick enough in escaping to the squares. Then succeeded a moment's calm, as when the heavy ordnance has opened the battle, and the lighter, but more numerous, musketry prepares to follow. Soon it began again, and the houseless, homeless inhabitants counted two hundred distinct shocks within the following twenty-four hours. These shocks continued until the February of the following year, and were computed at four hundred and fifty in all. On this occasion the port of Callao sank quite down below the level of the sea. Nothing was left standing save a piece of wall belonging to the fort of Santa Cruz, in which twenty-two persons contrived to save themselves. Of the twenty-three ships then in port, nineteen were wholly sunk, and the remaining four carried a considerable distance inland. Of the four thousand inhabitants, which the port of Callao then numbered, only two hundred survived. In Lima thirteen hundred dead bodies were excavated from the ruins, exclusive of great number of maimed, who afterward died of their hurts. Commander Wilkes, of the United States exploring expedition of 1849, was able in that year to define the site of the old port of Callao beneath the sea.

So much for Lima. Let us next take the case of Caracas, chief city of the Republic of Venezuela. It has been already mentioned that the earth movement appears to vary considerably. It has been already mentioned as occurring from north to south, with quick transverse jerks from east to west. But this is by no means always the case. The movement is sometimes upward, sometimes rotary. In the

earthquake near Quito, already referred to, many bodies of inhabitants were thrown into the air, some being found on the hill of Cauca, several hundred feet in height, and on the opposite side of the river. A sailor in mid-ocean was violently flung into the rigging from the deck as if a mine had exploded under the ship. In other instances walls are observed to be twisted, although not thrown down; and rows of trees will be turned from their previous parallel direction. Stranger still is the facility with which objects on the surface of the earth have been found to shift from one place to another. The furniture of one house has been found on the ruins of a neighbor's; and at Quito the council of justice had in many cases to decide on the ownership of property, even including fields and growing crops, which had thus shifted their positions without sustaining much apparent injury.

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HER MAJESTY'S TABLE.

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Amontillado flavored Sherry, Red Seal, \$16 per dozen.

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1st January, 1869.

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Finest Scotch, in Tins. For Sale by JANION, RHODES & CO.

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J. & J. Colman's, Best Quality, in 1/2 lb and 1 lb Tins. For Sale by JANION, RHODES & CO.

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Jams, Jellies, Sauces, Fairy Biscuits, Pie Fruits, Currie Powders, Anchovies, Arrowroot, Sago, Tapica, For Sale by JANION, RHODES & CO.

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Pure Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, &c.

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PROPRIETORS.

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OCIDENTAL BUILDING,

Corner of Government and Fort Streets.

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Tuesday Morning, Jan. 19, 1869.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Transient Advertisements must be paid for in advance to insure insertion.

TO AGENTS.

Settlement of accounts will be required monthly, or the sum or paper will be discontinued. The daily and weekly issues will be furnished at the lowest cash rates and no exception will in future be made to this rule.

For Interesting Reading Matter see 1st page

As will be seen by our extract from the *Walla Walla Statesman*, the other day, the accounts recently published in this paper in relation to the Kootenay mines are fully confirmed. The diggings are not only rich but extensive, and would afford employment to from 5000 to 10,000 miners; a number very likely to congregate at the mines next spring. The claims, so far, have paid from \$6 to \$50 per day to the hand, some even richer, and what may be subsequently discovered when the diggings are thoroughly explored, is hard to tell; very possibly a second Cariboo. Our readers may not be aware that the streams on which these mines were found flow from the southern end of the Selkirk range of mountains, of which the Big Bend mines form a portion; so that there is every reason to suppose that the whole range is more or less permeated with the precious metal. In a recent article on the Cariboo mines we pointed out the fallacy of concluding that any particular part of our mining localities were exhausted because unlucky explorers had tried their hands on them and failed. If we required a stronger instance of this than those we cited we should point to Wild Horse Creek, which was formerly the scene of very extensive mining operations, since abandoned almost entirely to Chinamen, and on which from \$30 to \$50 per day have been cleaned up very lately, proving beyond a doubt the very rich character of the ground in that vicinity. The simple fact is, that the debris forming the gravel or pay dirt in British Columbia is of different formation entirely to that found in California; the latter being of a light, friable nature and easily worked, whereas ours has nearly the consistence of cement, much better calculated to hold the precious metal, hence richer, and of a more lasting character than the Californian mines. We would ask where at this moment can mines be found that will yield to the ordinary miner \$6 to \$50 per day? We do not except the late alleged discoveries in the White Pine country, of which we have heard fabulous stories within the last few days. We are too much accustomed to the American system of exaggeration to be led away with such an old story. It is true, wily traders and whisky sellers can always make a profit out of the credulous by such golden romances, perfectly regardless of the suffering and loss of life that always occurs at these 'rushes,' but happily for the few in this country who would be tempted to try their luck in such reckless adventures, it is too far away, and only those will fall victims who are at present in California, as the true state of the case will soon leak out. It is far otherwise with our Kootenay mines, which have every probability of being permanently remunerative, and will long attract a large and permanent population to the vicinity. It now remains to be seen whether our trading and commercial men are equal to the task of contesting the field for profitable business, which these mines will throw open to those classes of our citizens. Can we have any better instruction in the art of go-aheadiveness than is displayed in the letter of the *Statesman's* correspondent? He not only shows the rich opportunity for his enterprising fellow-citizens, but he tells them that those who have gone before have actually provided the means of transit for goods and passengers across the line. We need hardly remind our readers that owing to the snail's pace in which everything is done by our people, and the want of energy on the part of our Government, the miners at Big Bend would have been absolutely starved to death had it not been for the resolute enterprise of our American neighbors, who, against the most positive assertions on the part of those in authority here, (who should have known better,) ran the steamer '49 with food to the succor of the famishing explorers. Can anyone be surprised, with such instances before his eyes that the Colony progresses so slowly, and that rich as it is in every description of wealth, we are so slightly benefitted, since we allow any stranger

to carry off the oyster and leave us but the shells! Our Government is fully apprised of the value of the Kootenay mines, an honorable member of the Legislative Council having read an extract from a letter, which we subsequently published in this journal, urging the speedy completion of the Eagle Pass road, which appears to be the easiest mode of transit for goods and passengers to the Kootenay country. That our neighbors will quickly adopt the readiest and most rapid means of supplying our Kootenay mines, no one will doubt for a moment, but that is no reason why we should not exert ourselves in the same direction, and we are fully persuaded that by the adoption of prompt and energetic measures, we can furnish the Kootenay market as cheaply as they can, if not undersell them. We have some little advantage in the tariff, and, thanks to the enterprise of our up-country merchants, we have flour mills within a distance not much greater than our neighbors, and the means of erecting them within a much shorter distance, with grain at hand to manufacture into flour. In dry goods we can certainly beat them, and in many other articles of prime necessity in the mines we should not be in the worst position.

The correspondent of the *Statesman*, judging from former experience, treats our Government with supreme contempt, and predicts that Walla Walla merchants have nothing to fear from any measures taken by our authorities to enable our merchants to take their proper place at the Kootenay mines. We are of a different opinion; the amount ofodium which this Government drew upon itself in relation to Big Bend and elsewhere has taught our authorities a wholesome lesson, and we are very much mistaken if the Government does not open the Eagle Pass route early in the Spring, if that is decided to be the best and cheapest mode of transit as we are led to believe it is. With an entrepot at Yale, we can transport goods cheaply and rapidly over our fine waggon road to Savona's Ferry, thence by steamer to the head of Shuswap Lake; then by the Eagle Pass to the Columbia, where batteaux or a small steamer can convey them to within a comparatively short distance of the mines, where the difficulties of travel are not as great as those we had to contend with in the early days of Cariboo. We have had occasion frequently to deprecate the inertness of Government; so much time being occupied in bringing the official mind to comprehend the utility of any public improvement, that when thorough conviction has produced its effect, the value of the change, whatever it may be, is very much reduced. At the same time the authorities are not so much to blame as one might imagine. Our impression is, that the merchants and traders possessed the pluck and enterprise of our neighbors, the Government would act with more promptitude. Let our commercial men show the initiative by getting up the information as to the practicability and expense of constructing the route, with probable cost per lb of transit, and if what we have stated as to the Eagle Pass route be correct, depend upon it the Government will not lag behind. At present the information we possess in relation to the route is of the most meager and unsatisfactory character.

It now remains to be seen whether our trading and commercial men are equal to the task of contesting the field for profitable business, which these mines will throw open to those classes of our citizens. Can we have any better instruction in the art of go-aheadiveness than is displayed in the letter of the *Statesman's* correspondent? He not only shows the rich opportunity for his enterprising fellow-citizens, but he tells them that those who have gone before have actually provided the means of transit for goods and passengers across the line. We need hardly remind our readers that owing to the snail's pace in which everything is done by our people, and the want of energy on the part of our Government, the miners at Big Bend would have been absolutely starved to death had it not been for the resolute enterprise of our American neighbors, who, against the most positive assertions on the part of those in authority here, (who should have known better,) ran the steamer '49 with food to the succor of the famishing explorers. Can anyone be surprised, with such instances before his eyes that the Colony progresses so slowly, and that rich as it is in every description of wealth, we are so slightly benefitted, since we allow any stranger

to carry off the oyster and leave us but the shells! Our Government is fully apprised of the value of the Kootenay mines, an honorable member of the Legislative Council having read an extract from a letter, which we subsequently published in this journal, urging the speedy completion of the Eagle Pass road, which appears to be the easiest mode of transit for goods and passengers to the Kootenay country. That our neighbors will quickly adopt the readiest and most rapid means of supplying our Kootenay mines, no one will doubt for a moment, but that is no reason why we should not exert ourselves in the same direction, and we are fully persuaded that by the adoption of prompt and energetic measures, we can furnish the Kootenay market as cheaply as they can, if not undersell them. We have some little advantage in the tariff, and, thanks to the enterprise of our up-country merchants, we have flour mills within a distance not much greater than our neighbors, and the means of erecting them within a much shorter distance, with grain at hand to manufacture into flour. In dry goods we can certainly beat them, and in many other articles of prime necessity in the mines we should not be in the worst position.

The correspondent of the *Statesman*, judging from former experience, treats our Government with supreme contempt, and predicts that Walla Walla merchants have nothing to fear from any measures taken by our authorities to enable our merchants to take their proper place at the Kootenay mines. We are of a different opinion; the amount ofodium which this Government drew upon itself in relation to Big Bend and elsewhere has taught our authorities a wholesome lesson, and we are very much mistaken if the Government does not open the Eagle Pass route early in the Spring, if that is decided to be the best and cheapest mode of transit as we are led to believe it is. With an entrepot at Yale, we can transport goods cheaply and rapidly over our fine waggon road to Savona's Ferry, thence by steamer to the head of Shuswap Lake; then by the Eagle Pass to the Columbia, where batteaux or a small steamer can convey them to within a comparatively short distance of the mines, where the difficulties of travel are not as great as those we had to contend with in the early days of Cariboo. We have had occasion frequently to deprecate the inertness of Government; so much time being occupied in bringing the official mind to comprehend the utility of any public improvement, that when thorough conviction has produced its effect, the value of the change, whatever it may be, is very much reduced. At the same time the authorities are not so much to blame as one might imagine. Our impression is, that the merchants and traders possessed the pluck and enterprise of our neighbors, the Government would act with more promptitude. Let our commercial men show the initiative by getting up the information as to the practicability and expense of constructing the route, with probable cost per lb of transit, and if what we have stated as to the Eagle Pass route be correct, depend upon it the Government will not lag behind. At present the information we possess in relation to the route is of the most meager and unsatisfactory character.

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THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Tuesday Morning, Jan. 19, 1869.

DIED.

In this city, on 17th inst., of diphtheria, Elizabeth Frances, eldest daughter of Mr. J. A. Austin, deputy sheriff, aged 3 years and 6 months.

[Friends and acquaintances are invited to attend the funeral at 2 o'clock to-morrow (Wednesday) from the residence of her parents, Quadra, near Johnson street.]

Legislative Council Proceedings.

MONDAY, Jan. 18, 1869.

Present:—Hon. Helmcken, Hamley, Robson, Humphreys, Davie, Sanders, Alston, Bushby, Crease, Bill O'Reilly, Ring, Trutch, Carroll, Wood, Holbrook, Walkem, Drake, Young (presiding).

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Hon Crease.—To bring in a measure to change the registered office of the Queen Charlotte Coal Co.

Hon Davie.—To move that his Excellency the Governor be requested to make known in the proper quarters the true sentiments of the people of this colony on the subject of Confederation, otherwise the people of England might be misled by such articles as that which appeared in the *Illustrated News* of Nov. 14th, and the *London Times*, of Dec. 22, 1868.

Hon Robson.—To move for an address to the Governor, praying that the report made last Autumn by the Harbor Master in relation to the mouth of the Fraser be laid before the Council.

Hon Young laid the Estimates for 1869 before the Council, and pointed out the flattering results of the year just passed and the favorable prospects for 1869. The hon. gentleman was applauded at the conclusion of his speech.

After some remarks from Hon. Helmcken, the Estimates were ordered printed and to be brought up for discussion to-morrow. Hon. Helmcken brought up his motion for the repeal of the Crown Salaries Act. An exciting debate followed which occupied nearly the whole sitting. On division, the motion was lost by one vote, a portion of the official members having retired.

Ayes—Ring, Wood, Humphreys, Carroll, Helmcken, Drake—6.

Noes—Davie, Robson, Holbrook, Alston, Walkem, Ball, Sanders—7.

The Council then brought up the resolutions of Hon. Helmcken for alterations of the Councils—Hon. Ball in the chair.

Hon. Holbrook proposed an amendment, making 15 members of the Legislative Council elective, two-thirds of whom to represent the Mainland and one-third for Vancouver Island. He would shorten two sessions to forty days, and the Council to meet at New Westminster and Victoria alternately. The debate was ultimately adjourned.

Hon. Crease obtained leave to bring in a Bill to extend provisions of 18 and 19 Victoria c. 90, to the Colony of British Columbia. The Bill was then read a first time, second reading fixed for Monday next.

The Cattle Bill was read a second time to be committed on Friday.

The Savings Bank Bill was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Davie.—To move a respectful address to his Excellency the Governor to authorize Stipendiary Magistrates of settled districts to pay suitable rewards for the destruction of Wolves and Panthers.

ACTION FOR BREACH OF PROMISE—A NEW WESTMINSTERIAN IN IRELAND THE PLAINTIFF.—The Glasgow *Herald* contains the following paragraph of interest to our Colonial readers:—The case of Thomas Jackson Marks vs. Thomas Rowland and Susan Rowland, otherwise Smith, his wife, came before the Master of the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on Wednesday. This was an inquiry to assess damages in an action which was brought to recover compensation, laid at £2000, for breach of promise of marriage. The plaintiff, Mr. Thomas Jackson Marks, lived near Ardee, in the county of Louth, and in 1860 he entered into an engagement to marry the female defendant, Mrs. Rowland, then Miss Smith, who also lived in the county of Louth. After some time the engagement was broken off and the plaintiff then went to New Westminster, in British Columbia. While there correspondence was opened between him and Miss Smith, which led to a renewal of the marriage engagement. The letters that passed were of the most affectionate character, and prophesied the happiness the parties would enjoy when the engagement was ratified. In August, 1867, the plaintiff sold off his farm in Columbia and came home to get married. When he reached Canada a letter awaited him from Miss Smith stating that she did not really love him, that the supposed affection she had for him was a mistake; that the engagement should be broken off. She shortly afterward married Mr. Rowland, who wrote to the plaintiff stating that he had long possessed the affections of the young lady. The letters between the parties were read to the jury, and the injury to the plaintiff by the lady's secession from her engagement commented on. It was alleged that the plaintiff disposed of his farm and left Columbia only because he expected to marry the defendant. The jury after a short deliberation found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £200.

SWELLIN' BUDS AN' BLOWIN' ROSES.—Vegetation at Victoria is putting out shoots and tendrils, young blades of grass are peeping out of the ground, roses are bursting into full bloom, and fruit trees budding. What a glorious climate this lovely Island possesses!

TROUSERS.—A bare-legged Siwash was brought before the magistrate yesterday on a charge of stealing a pair of trousers. He pleaded cold weather as an excuse and was allowed to run on his own recognizances for three days.

The lady patient landed from the steamer *Continental*, some six weeks since, died yesterday in the French Infirmary. It appears that she was of a delicate organization, and the small pox left her so weak her system refused to rally.

One of the cases of small-pox landed from the *Continental* at Portland has proved fatal. The victim was a young lady passenger named Miss Kate Shaw.

The right arm of Mr. Isaac Camm, who was so fearfully injured at Burrard Inlet, a few days ago, has been amputated. He lies at the Royal Hospital.

The Ajax will be looked for to-morrow. She is a large propeller and will go into Esquimalt.

OUTSIDE.—The brig *Robert Cowan*, from the Sandwich Islands, was reported outside last evening.

The Active returned from Nanaimo at half past 8 o'clock last evening.

The G S Wright sailed for the Sound yesterday.

The Oter starts for the North on Friday.

The New York *Herald's* correspondent of Jan. 12 publishes an account of another interview with General Blair, in which the General reiterates his formerly expressed opinion that Grant will make a Dictator and an Emperor of himself before he leaves the White House.

FRED PAYNE has removed his Cheap Shaving Shop to the opposite side of Johnson street, just above the Miner's Saloon.

EARTHQUAKES.—From a paper recently published in San Francisco upon this subject, induced by the late violent shocks, we call the following facts which will be read with interest by our readers. From the year 1769, the period at which the country was first settled, up to 1812 there is no record or tradition of any shocks. In the latter year there was a very severe shock on a Sunday morning, which threw down a church and other buildings in the southern part of the State, and caused many lives to be lost. From that year to 1865 no material damage was done or alarm excited by the numerous earthquakes occurring between the dates. The author of the paper in question then reviews these visitations in a more general connexion, and concludes as follows:—

The period of time inclusive between the 16th November 1852, the date of the sad earthquake of Banda Neira, in the Moluccas, and the 26th January, 1863, cannot but be regarded as one of the most remarkable periods of modern date. During this period a greater proportion of the earth's surface was convulsed by subterranean forces than has been known for many years in the same length of time.

The area most severely affected by these phenomena is included in the parallels of 40 degrees south and 37 degrees north latitude, extending from 120 degrees east to 45 degrees west longitude, making 210 degrees of longitude, or nearly equal to three-fifths of the equatorial circumference of the earth.

At this time the coast of eastern Asia, the islands of the South Indian Ocean, Singapore, the Moluccas, the east coast of China, the north, east and south of Australia, the coast of California, Mexico and South America, with portions of the Atlantic coast south of the 34th parallel shared in the general disturbances that prevailed upon our own shores during the period above named.

WHISKEY SELLING.—John Livermore, the old *habitué* of the Police Court, and almost the last of the old '58 gang, was arrested yesterday, for about the 200th time, on a charge of selling whiskey to natives. When placed in the dock John showed signs of inebriety and commenced, after the fashion of a Western lawyer, to argue the point with the judge. He was sent to the cells for a day to cure his loquacity and render him self presentable.

MECHANICS' LIBRARY INSTITUTE.—The programme of the entertainment on the occasion of the opening of the new Mechanics' Institute building will be varied and interesting. Several ladies and gentlemen have volunteered to appear in vocal parts, and a prominent gentleman, lately arrived in the Colony, will read a sketch from Dickens. A competent orchestra will be in attendance.

Mr. Nicholson, agent for the plaintiff in the suit of Dickson, Campbell & Co vs the Official Assignee, yesterday filed a protest against the case being tried before Mr. Needham and withdrew the records. There will therefore, be no trial of the cause, as announced to-day. A writ has been issued by Judge Begbie for the trial of the cause.

A MYSTERY.—Last night about half past 10 o'clock, the wild shrieks of a woman and cries of 'murder' were heard proceeding from a point near the old brick-field, on Douglas street, beyond St. John's Church. A party of men with lanterns ran in the direction, but before they reached the spot the shrieks and cries had ceased, and no distressed woman was found. The police should investigate.

The mercury on Sunday night fell to the freezing point, and a thin skin of ice was formed in exposed places. The poor hyperborean who represents the *Columbian* in the Council, having become accustomed to the genial warmth of the 'bright sunshine, and the swelling buds and the blown roses' of his adopted home, must have suffered terribly.

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By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

LAST NIGHT'S DESPATCHES.

Europe.

PARIS, Jan. 15.—The *Patrie* publishes a translation of a letter from Mr. Gladstone to C. Edwards, a solicitor of Ohio, and proceeds to condemn the remarks of Gladstone made therein as humiliating to England in the presence of Americans, and says it is likely to produce no little irritation against the Premier among his own countrymen.

A vessel which left Madera on the 8th brings no tidings of the arrival there of the missing passengers of the *Hibernia*.

London, Jan. 15.—A treaty for the settlement of the Alabama claims has been signed by Minister Johnson and Lord Clarendon on the basis of the original protocol.

Lisbon, Jan. 15.—Rio Janeiro advises to

24th Dec. say that the allied army made a vigorous assault on the Paraguayan stronghold at Tilleta. After a desperate battle they succeeded in carrying the place. The city was utterly destroyed. The allies captured over 3000 prisoners of war; Lopez barely escaped with 200 followers. This victory has opened the River to Asuncion, to which place the Brazilian iron-clads had gone.

London, Jan. 16.—Charles Dickens publishes a card in the London papers denying the story of the recent death of his brother's widow in Chicago, and says the lady is still alive and well.

The final signing of the treaty for the settlement of the Alabama claims elicits favorable comments from all the London papers.

A meeting of those favoring balloting at parliamentary elections was held last evening. The speeches were able, assemblage large and enthusiastic.

BREMEN, Jan. 16.—The money order system between large towns of North Germany and United States goes into operation February 1st, limited to fifty dollars.

Eastern States.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—In the Senate, Stewarts, from the Judiciary Committee reported the following constitutional amendments and asked that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the subject—Article fifteenth—The rights of the citizens of the United States to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of race or color, or previous servitude.

A bill was introduced to enable Colorado Territory to form a state government; referred to committee on territories. In the House the Niagara Ship Canal bill was resumed. Butler advocated the bill; in the course of his speech he said gentlemen need feel no apprehensions on account of the canal running through Canadian soil, because before the canal is completed that soil would be ours; not by conquest or purchase, but by the will and desire of a majority of its inhabitants! After further discussion the bill was defeated.

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Gen. Sheridan says the destruction of the Camanche village gave a final blow to the Indian rebellion. The Indians have surrendered unconditionally.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17.—During the past week the total number new cases of smallpox reported was 42. It is evident that, not only the number of new cases reported are decreasing, but that the proportion of deaths is materially less than during the past week. The total number of deaths from smallpox last week was 25.

Second Despatch.

Eastern States.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The *Herald's* Washington special states that on Friday last the President sent to the Senate the treaties with Great Britain on the Alabama claims, the rights of naturalized citizens, and the questions arising out of the occupation of San Juan. The treaty is concluded substantially on the original terms presented by our government. The Senate committee meets to-day, and the matter will be considered. The naturalization treaty is understood to be conceded on the part of Great Britain that naturalized citizens shall enjoy the same rights in that country as native American citizens. The articles of treaty on the Alabama claims are eight in number. In articles one and two the governments agree to settle all claims and differences which have arisen since the Convention of 1863. Article 2 provides for a commission of four persons, each government being entitled to two representatives; this Commission is to agree upon a plan of settlement. Article 3 provides that the majority of the Commission shall decide the questions in each article. Article 4 provides for cases of disagreement of the Commission; in such event the governments shall choose an umpire. The President of the United States shall not act for the United States, but the umpire selected shall not be qualified unless confirmed by the Senate. Article 5 provides, in the event of the refusal of the umpire to decide, that the question shall be settled by lot in the presence of the Commissioners. Article 6 excludes from the jurisdiction of the Commission all cases arising from claims which have been adjudicated by the Courts of Admiralty. Article 7 provides that the claimants shall prove that they are British subjects and that they preserved strict neutrality during war and did not aid the South. Article 8 provides that the sessions of the Commission shall be held at Washington.

FIRE! FIRE!—**BARGAINS IN GENTS' CLOTHING** AND **UNDERCLOTHING**, **CANDIES**, **Almonds, Gum Drops, Tondant's Cordial Drops, Chocolate Cream, Burned Almonds, And other Kinds without end, will be sold at 75 cents per pound.** **WHOLESALE PRICES TO CORRESPOND.** **FANCY HEARTS** 75 cents. **"** 50 " **"** 37 " **"** 12 " **CHEAPER THAN IN SAN FRANCISCO.** **A. W. PIPER,** GOVERNMENT STREET.

To effect a speedy clearance of stock saved from the late fire.

CALL ON J. Q. HEWLINGS, (at his Old Stand) Next to Site of Hotel de France, Government st., Victoria.

The undersigned begs to inform the public that he has just received per bark "RIVAL," a large supply of assorted

TERMS—CASH.

10%—Acts of sale at purchaser's expense.

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Springfield Nursery, Cook Street.

JAY & BALES

Invite Inspection of their LARGE STOCK of the CHOICEST VARIETIES of

Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, & other Fruit Trees,

of One Year Old and Upwards, now ready for Removal, and guaranteed true to name.

—ALSO OF—

Evergreen and Deciduous Shrubs, Dwarf and Standard Roses, Bulbs and Nursery Stock of every description.

At the SEED STORE, Yates Street.

A Fine Assortment of Fresh Island-raised TIMOTHY and RYE GRASS, and FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS, of all kind on hand.

Fruit Trees Securely Packed for Travel.

Orders executed with fidelity and despatch, and Planting undertaken if required. 6029 3m

Insurance.

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Of this agency in 1864, was nearly double that of 1863—

the risks in Victoria alone amounted to \$1,100,000.

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Has also largely increased since the Directors reduced the rate to the English standard.

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THE COMPANY'S DRY DOCKS,

are now completed and in successful operation, and afford every facility for the Docking, Repairing, and all Classes of Shipbuilding and Repairing.

The DOCKS are built on the Solid Rock, and finished in the most substantial manner, in the following dimensions:

Extreme length, 450 feet; length on blocks, 116 feet; width at the top, 120 feet; depth, 30 feet; width at entrance, 90 feet. At mean high tide will take in a whip drawing 22 feet without difficulty.

This Dock is fitted with a Calumet Dredge, and is supplied with Two Large Pumping and Dredging Steam Pumps, capable of pumping out the Dock in two hours.

The FLOATING DRY DOCK will receive Vessels of 1500 tons measurement and under. The Dock is 82 feet in width, and 210 feet in length; is built of the Soundest Oregon pine, thoroughly braced and bolted, and is furnished with all the requisites for Docking a Ship successfully. Vessels taken up at all stages of the tide.

The Company is warranted in stating that Repairs on Vessels can be made as advantageously in San Francisco in respect to Cost of Materials and Labor as in any other part of the world.

For Particulars, address,

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Apply on the Premises to A. J. TOLMIE, or in Town to STAFFORD & HICKIN, Butchers, Government street.

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TEN FIRST PRIZES, ONE SECOND PRIZE

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